

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Bob Lake, on March 22, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Jon Sonju, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson (D)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)
Rep. Edward Hilbert (R)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Bill Nooney (R)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 284, 3/15/2007; SB 430,
3/12/2007; HB 680, 3/15/2007
Executive Action: SB 430

HEARING ON SB 430

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:22 Sen. Jim Elliott (D), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 430, Allow out-of-state revenue collections.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:01:53 Sen. Jim Elliott

HEARING ON SB 284

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:00 Sen. Lynda Moss (D), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 284, Revise allocation of bed tax and taxes on rental cars.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:23 Mike Scholz, Montana Tourism Industry Association
00:13:23 Sen. Gary Perry, SD 35
00:17:15 Jeffrey Tiberi, extensive tourism experience
00:19:16 Robert Freistadt, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks
00:21:56 Ellen Crane, Butte, Chair, Montana Cultural Trust
00:23:39 Fred Sterhan, Co-Owner, Marine Cay Resort, Bigfork
also President of the Innkeepers Association
00:26:17 Dyani Bingham, representing Montana Tribal Tourism
Alliance
00:29:35 John Brewer, President and CEO, Billings Area Chamber
of Commerce
00:32:10 Chere Jiusto, Executive Director, Montana Preservation
Alliance

EXHIBIT (tah61a01)

Proponents' Testimony: (Con't)

00:36:47 Jane Hamman, representing AAA/Mountain West
00:38:16 Jay Robson, representing Montana Car Rental
Association, President, Missoula CVB
00:41:10 Jeff Waydekamper, Montana Airport Managers Association
00:41:48 Rhonda Fitzgerald, Owner of small Inn, Whitefish
00:45:19 Carl Schweitzer, representing Bozeman and Kalispell
Chambers of Commerce
00:45:57 Jeff Welch, Co-Owner, Mercury Advertising, Bozeman
00:49:50 Anne Morand, CEO, C.M. Russell Museum, Great Falls
00:52:36 Terri Elander, International and Public Relations
Coordinator, Missoula Children's Theatre

EXHIBIT (tah61a02)

00:55:42 Michael Sweeney, Board Member, Montana Tribal Tourism
Alliance
01:01:09 John Laney, Executive Director, Miles City Chamber of
Commerce
01:03:21 Gary Bye, Valley Bank, Helena, also speaking for
Glacier Bank Holding Company
01:04:38 Brenda Peterson, CEO, Wendt Advertising, Great Falls
01:06:43 Jenny Gehl, Owner, Grant Junction Merchantile, Helena
01:07:59 Dick Haines, City Council Member, Missoula
01:09:03 Gayle Fisher, Executive Director, Russell County
Tourism Region
01:10:26 Webb Brown, representing Montana Chamber of Commerce
01:10:39 Amy Sullivan, Executive Director, Montana History
Foundation
01:12:47 Curtis Spindler
01:16:13 Mary Oliver, Ennis Businesswoman

Opponents' Testimony:

01:19:55 Marty Tuttle, Chief Legal Council, Department of
Commerce

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:20:54 Rep. Lambert
01:24:29 Chairman Lake
01:24:52 Rep. Erickson
01:30:42 Rep. Sonju
01:33:43 David Ewer, Budget Director
01:37:41 Rep. Butcher
01:48:53 Rep. Jopek
01:58:27 Rep. Ross
02:00:42 Rep. Nooney

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: (Con't)

02:04:04 Rep. Lambert
02:06:36 Rep. Erickson
02:09:02 Chairman Lake

Closing by Sponsor:

02:09:53 Sen. Lynda Moss

02:13:42 Recess

02:32:29 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 680

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:32:51 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 680, Revise tax laws to authorize department of revenue to collect out-of-state debt.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:34:31 David Hunter, Deputy Director, Department of Revenue
[EXHIBIT\(tah61a03\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(tah61a04\)](#)
02:41:42 Bruce Spencer, representing Auto Dealers Association
also speaking for Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers
Association
02:49:25 Sheila Hogan, Helena resident
02:50:25 Neil Haight
02:50:57 Tom Bilodeau, MEA/MFT

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:51:44 Rep. McAlpin
02:52:11 Rep. Sonju
02:58:53 Rep. Hilbert
03:00:54 Rep. Butcher
03:08:14 Rep. Ross
03:09:27 Rep. McAlpin
03:10:34 Rep. Lambert
03:14:27 Rep. MacLaren
03:15:44 Chairman Lake

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: (Con't)

03:15:53 Rep. Erickson
03:18:49 Rep. Sonju
03:20:01 Russ Hyatt, Department of Revenue
03:20:36 Rep. Ross
03:24:01 Chairman Lake

Closing by Sponsor:

03:28:16 Rep. Jill Cohenour

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 430

03:30:09 **Motion:** Rep. Erickson moved that **SB 430 BE CONCURRED IN.**

03:30:17 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Erickson made a substitute motion that **SB 430 BE TABLED. SUBSTITUTE MOTION CARRIED** unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 A.M.

REP. BOB LAKE, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

BL/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tah61aad.pdf](#))